O-2A AIR ATTACK



MANUFACTURER

Cessna Aircraft, Wichita, Kansas.

ORIGINAL OWNER

U.S. Air Force. The O-2 was used as forward air controller (FAC) extensively during the Vietnam War.

ACQUIRED BY CDF

CDF acquired 20 O-2s in 1974-1975 from the Department of Defense. They were converted for use as air attack planes, and 13 O-2s went into service during the 1976 Fire Season. CDF is replacing the O-2 with larger and faster OV-10A aircraft. Four O-2A aircraft will be maintained for the year 2000 Fire Season for air attack officer training and administrative fire support duties.

MISSION

CDF uses the O-2s as command and control aircraft on wildland fires. The crew provides tactical coordination with the incident commander on the ground, providing information on the movement and spread of the fire. The crew then directs CDF airtankers and helicopter pilots on where to make their retardant and water drops.

CREW

Pilot and observer

SPECIFICATIONS

GROSS WEIGHT: 4,300 pounds
MAXIMUM SPEED: 180 mph
CRUISE SPEED: 160 mph
RANGE: 1,000 miles
FNDURANCE: 7 hours
WING SPAN: 38 feet

ENGINES: Two (2) continental I0-360, six cylinder opposed

piston, (210 horsepower each).

